Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Emergency Order No. 03-08-05

Issued at: Fairbanks, Alaska

December 6, 2005

Effective Date: 11:59 PM

December 8, 2005

Expiration Date: June 30, 2006 unless superseded by subsequent

emergency order

EXPLANATION:

This Emergency Order closes a portion of the State of Alaska winter hunting season by registration permit RC867 for Fortymile caribou in Unit 20E. The portion closed is south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64° 00' 01'' North latitude).

REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.025** (**15**), **HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU**, are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting caribou:

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

Units and Bag Limits

(15)

. . .

Unit 20(E), that portion within the Charley River drainage and the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage

Units and Bag LimitsRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit only; up to 1,800 caribou may be taken under combined resident and nonresident bag limits in combination with Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, Unit 20(D), that portion north of the south bank of the Tanana River, Unit 20(E), that portion south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64° 00' 01" N. lat.), the remainder of Unit 20(E) and the remainder of Unit 25(C)

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only

Unit 20(E), that portion south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64° 00' 01'' N. lat.)

RESIDENT HUNTERS

1 caribou by registration permit only; up to 1,800 caribou may be taken under combined resident and nonresident bag limits in combination with Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, Unit 20(D), that portion north of the south bank of the Tanana River, Unit 20(E), that portion within the Charley River drainage and the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, the remainder of Unit 20(E), and the remainder of Unit 25(C)

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)

Aug. 10–Sept. 12 Dec. 1–Feb. 28 Open Season

Nonresident

Aug. 10-Sept. 12

Aug. 10–Aug. 19 Dec. 1–Dec. 8

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season Aug. 10–Aug. 19

Units and Bag Limits

1 bull by registration permit only

Remainder of Unit 20(E)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 caribou by registration permit only; up to 1,800 caribou may be taken under combined resident and nonresident bag limits in combination with Unit 20(B), that portion south and east of the Steese Highway, Unit 20(D), that portion north of the south bank of the Tanana River, Unit 20(E), that portion within the Charley River drainage and the Middle Fork of the Fortymile River drainage upstream from and including the Joseph Creek drainage, Unit 20(E), that portion south of an east-west line that passes through milepost 60 of the Taylor Highway (64° 00' 01" N. lat.), and the remainder of Unit 25(C)

Aug. 10–Aug. 19 Dec. 1–Feb. 28

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull by registration permit only

Aug. 10-Aug. 19

. . .

All other caribou hunting regulations in Unit 20 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

McKie Campbell Commissioner

By delegation to:

Jeffrey A. Gross Area Wildlife Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Large numbers of Nelchina Herd caribou are currently present in the southern portion of Unit 20E and therefore are at risk of being harvested under registration permit RC867, which is intended for Fortymile Herd caribou. No harvest of Nelchina caribou is allocated to Unit 20E, and take of Nelchina caribou in other units during state and federal hunting seasons is expected to meet the harvest objective of 2,000 bulls and 1,000 cows.

Minimal reduction in opportunity to harvest Fortymile caribou in Unit 20E is expected from this closure. Less than 5% of the Fortymile herd is in the portion of Unit 20E where the season is being closed.